
Resolution 13/14-57 to Establish a Peralta Community College District Minimum Wage

WHEREAS, the mission of the Peralta Community College District includes enhancing the region's human, economic, environmental and social development; and

WHEREAS, the prevailing minimum wage of \$8.00 per hour, at which rate a full-time worker would earn \$16,400 annually, is barely half the cost of living for a single worker in Alameda County; and

WHEREAS, all citizens deserve dignity and respect, and should never have to struggle in poverty;

WHEREAS, research has shown that increasing the minimum wage has no negative effect on the employment of minimum wage workers and no significant impact on the prices of most goods; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that increasing the minimum wage lifts workers out of poverty, improves community livelihood, and strengthens the economy by increasing consumer spending and stabilizing the labor force; and

WHEREAS, in his 2014 State of the Union address, President Obama called for every "mayor, governor, [and] state legislator in America" to not wait for Congress and instead raise the minimum wage on their own,

Whereas, the minimum wage policies in the cities of San Francisco and San Jose as well as numerous academic studies have already shown that raising the minimum wage benefits low wage workers without hurting small and local businesses or the economy as a whole; and

Whereas, the Berkeley City Council will vote in April on legislation that would eventually raise the minimum wage in Berkeley to \$13.34 with an annual cost-of-living adjustment; and

Whereas, a citizen and labor coalition in the City of Oakland is currently circulating a ballot measure for the November 2014 ballot that would raise the minimum wage in Oakland to \$12.25 with an annual cost-of-living adjustment; and

Whereas, on March 18, 2014 the Richmond City Council took a first affirmative vote on legislation that will raise the minimum wage in Richmond to \$12.30 with an annual cost-of-living adjustment; and

Whereas, the Sunday March 14, 2014 edition of *The San Francisco Chronicle* reported that 59% of likely San Francisco voters support raising the San Francisco minimum wage from the current \$10.74 to \$15.00 with an annual cost-of-living adjustment; and

WHEREAS, the Peralta Community College District currently has no district-wide minimum wage policy; and

WHEREAS, the Peralta Community College District's leadership on the issue of the minimum will benefit students and workers at Peralta directly and indirectly support all working families in our region;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Peralta Community College District [hereafter referred to as The Board] supports raising the District's minimum wage for all workers including students with an annual cost-of-living adjustment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Board calls on the district administration to report back to The Board by May 2014 with: 1) a report on the fiscal implications of implementing a District minimum wage with an annual cost-of-living adjustment at the following levels: \$10 p/h; \$12 p/h \$13.50 p/h and \$15 p/h; and 2) a plan for implementing a District minimum wage increase at the earliest possible time, consistent with financially prudent planning.

José M. Ortiz, Chancellor
Secretary, Board of Trustees
PERALTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT